

SOUTH CAROLINA CELEBRATES



Keys
to a
Better
Tomorrow

Probation, Parole and
Community Supervision Week



Celebrate the Week! July 15-21, 2007

The Chesterfield and Marlboro Offices combined to celebrate Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week at Bill's BBQ in Cheraw. From left to right around the table, from Chesterfield: HSS Sheila Funderburk; AIC Jerry Hamberis and Agent Andy Rivers. From Marlboro: HSS Pamela McLaurin; Agent Tara Bryant; Agent Reggie German; Parole Examiner Margaret Nolan and AIC Monnie English. Also from Chesterfield are Agents Mark Funderburk and Tony Davidson.



York and Chester counties celebrated at the lake house of York AIC Margarette Parrish, who took folks out on her pontoon boat for a cool ride.



The Keys to a Better Tomorrow are right in our own agency. It's the work we do to balance providing assistance to offenders while ensuring public safety. The work is not easy. It's often challenging, frustrating and time consuming, but greatly needed.

Be proud of the work we do!

Central Office employees were treated to barbecue served up by, among others, Deputy Director Jeff Cogdill.



More Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week Activities



Florence, Marion and Clarendon Counties celebrated together by going to see a baseball game.

Enjoying lunch at a local restaurant were (from left) AIC Todd Graham, Agent Charles Williams, HSS Daniela McMillan, Regional Director Schwann Scott and Agent Linda Keith Hightower.



The Greenwood office enjoyed a fish fry at the home of Agent Jacob Burch. Front: Agents Burch and Jeremy Goodman; Standing: Agents Ed Donnal, Ginny Sears, Autumn Daniel, and Windy Mallon; HSS Carolyn Brownlee; Agents Matt Bell and Richie Williams.

Lancaster County celebrated with a day on Lake Wateree. From left are: AIC Lynn Oliver, Agent Ed Lockhart, Agent Bryan Barber, Team Leader Jennifer Brice, Agent Wenona Boyd, Agent Richard Weiss, Agent LaQuandra Sistare, and Agent Tim Williams.



Fairfield County enjoyed an afternoon on Lake Monticello with a cookout that included some local law enforcement partners. Front row (from left): Sheriff Herman Young, AIC Tiffany Phillips and HSS. Dianne Johnston. Second row: Chief Deputy Keith Lewis, Major Eric Gill, Agent Kevin Kelly, Agent Demond Davis, Cpt. Frazier Craig and ATF Agent Bobbie Wright.

Kershaw Agents Jimmy Farmer (left) and Brannon Thomas were the cooks at their county's event, cooking up hotdogs, hamburgers and corn-on-the-cob.



Now that summer is winding down, cooler weather and somewhat less hectic schedules will be welcome changes to usher

in a long anticipated fall season. PPP staff members statewide continue to rise to every occasion in addressing the demands of the day to accomplish our core missions. In addition to the "day-to-day", we have definitely achieved a milestone with the implementation of the new Offender Management System. This accomplishment sets the stage for the Department's future growth and development in the information technology arena. My personal commendation goes out to each of our OMS users for your individual contributions to and support of a successful OMS transition.

We have much on the horizon as we move toward wrapping up 2007 and entering a new legislative session in January. The Ignition Interlock legislation that was enacted following the last session will put PPP into the spotlight as we work with partnering agencies to initiate this new program set to begin in early 2008. There will no doubt be other significant legislative considerations this term as well involving PPP. In closing, please remember our deployed troops as you go about your daily routine - they appreciate our thoughts and support. Thank you for all you do for PPP and keep up the GREAT work!



Sam Glover

Agent Larry Weeks Honored

By Eric Reed, Calhoun County Agent in Charge



In August of 2005, Regional Director Schwann Scott chartered a team of AICs to create a process to recognize exceptional work done by employees in Region Four. This effort led to the creation of the Regional Director's Award for Excellence. County office

supervisors nominate employees within the region who have made significant positive impacts on daily operations that go beyond the call of duty. On June 11th, Charleston County Agent Larry Weeks received an impressive crystal plaque and recognition by Regional Director Scott and the Charleston County staff for his outstanding contributions to the Charleston Office. Larry is described by his supervisors as being a true professional, always willing to help co-workers, offenders, and area law enforcement on his own time. He manages multiple responsibilities, yet he is always willing to step in and help. Larry is described by Team Leader Teela Fleming as "one of the most joy filled people in the office. We could all take lessons from Larry in appreciating life".

C.O.D.E.

Connecting Our Deployed Employees

By Jodi Gallman, Director of Community Affairs

Our deployed employees thank you for the e-mails, care packages and phone calls that have not only brightened their days, but allowed them to stay in touch with home. They are equally grateful of the support given to their families as they cope with their separation. As the end of summer approaches, let's keep the circle of care extended by doing the ordinary for such an extraordinary group of people.

HA Blackwell

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Michael Lee

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Fanklin Myers

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Hardy Paschal

hardy.paschal@us.army.mil

Antonio Vaughn

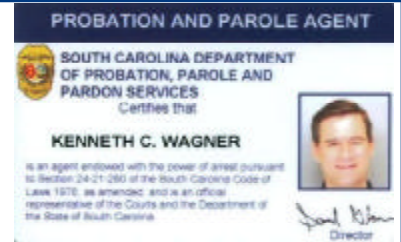
antonio.vaughn@us.army.mil

"Go Ahead, Make Their Day!"

NEW ID CARDS AT PPP

Submitted by the Human Resources Section

SCDPPPS has turned a new chapter in history. We have a new look to our employee ID Cards. Over the past 25 years or more, the Department has been issuing employee identification cards using the same process. Recognizing that the method used in the past for producing these cards could be greatly improved, the Department set out to identify a better system. New equipment to produce higher quality identification cards was procured and all employees were issued new ID cards this summer. Agent staff received new badge cases and two ID cards (one clip card and one for their badge case). All other employees received a standard ID card. This new ID card system is an automated one using LiveScan Technology along with special ID software and a high tech photo printer. Special thanks go out to the Program Development and Grants Management staff for helping to identify funding for this initiative and for assisting with its implementation. Thanks also to our staff statewide for making the transition a smooth one!



2007 SC Criminal Justice Training Conference

Sponsored by
The SC Correctional Association and
The SC Probation & Parole Association

**“SYNERGISM:
ARE WE THERE YET?”**

*Synergism:
The action of two or more entities to achieve an
effect of which each is individually incapable.*



November 4 – 7, 2007

**The Ocean Drive Resort
North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina
Reservations: 800-438-9590 or 843-249-1436**

Direct questions to Rhonda Grant
at 803-734-9241
or rgrant@ppp.state.sc.us

Agent Basic Class Graduates

Agents in the May 2007 PPP Agent Basic Training pose with Director Glover (alphabetical order): Don Batson, Greenville; James Black, Laurens; LouAnna Blackburn, Horry; Cindy Blackwood, Greenville; Leroy Boyd, Berkeley; David Dietz, Lexington; Christopher Doerr, Horry; Nyle Elzroth, Jasper; Brandon Faris, Pickens; Shonda Fulwood, Richland; Caleb Gamble, Greenville; Kristin Giebe, Dorchester; Toyya Gunter, Richland; Noel Husbands, Richland; Heather Higgins, Spartanburg; David Little, Aiken; Selina Major, Colleton; James Manley, Oconee; Chad Moore, Anderson; Angela Morris, Aiken; Donette Nelson, Anderson; William Powell, Berkeley; Matthew Schmitt, Colleton; Yxsumi Simmons, Dorchester; Constance Taylor, Spartanburg; Jenny Whiteside, Chester; Brittany Wofford, Charleston.



Ignition Interlock Device Program

By The Office of Executive Programs

New Legislation in South Carolina: On June 15th, Governor Sanford signed into law the *Prevention of Underage Drinking and Access to Alcohol Act*. Contained in this Act is a new Ignition Interlock Device Program which will be administered by PPP, DMV and DAODAS. Following the passage of the legislation, PPP established an internal implementation team comprised of key Department staff to accomplish goals associated with implementing this legislation and to interface with implementation teams from the other two agencies involved.

The Ignition Interlock Device Program: The legislation requires persons convicted of a second or subsequent DUI offense to have an Ignition Interlock Device (IID) in any vehicle the offender operates. It specifies the length of time the interlock device must be used by the offender (second offense - two years, third offense - three years and fourth or subsequent offense - the remainder of the offender's life).



Ignition Interlock Devices – How They Work: IIDs are developed and marketed by several different companies. The small device (about the size of a walkie talkie) is mounted to the dashboard of the vehicle and is wired into the ignition system. The driver is required to breathe and hum into the device prior to starting the vehicle. If the blood alcohol content (BAC) detected is higher than the set limit the vehicle will not start. If the BAC is within the allowed limit the vehicle will start. As the driver continues to drive “rolling checks” are required in which the driver must, again, breath and hum into the device. If the BAC exceeds the limit, the vehicle lights will begin flashing and the horn will continuously sound. Once the vehicle is stopped, it will not start again without the BAC falling below the set limit. The IID collects data every time the vehicle is started and driven. This data must be downloaded at an authorized dealer regularly, and this information is then forwarded to the monitoring agency.

Violations of the Program: Once the program is established, drivers will receive points for violations of the Ignition Interlock Device Program (below). Accumulated points can result in an extension of the driver's participation in the program, additional treatment at DAODAS or further suspension of the driver's license. In addition, tampering with the IID would result in a new offense. A number of prohibited activities under this program will result in a new offense for participating drivers.

- Failure to have interlock device inspected every sixty days = 1 point
- Attempting to start a vehicle with a BAC of .02 or greater = ½ point
- Running re-test with a BAC of .02 to less than .04 = ½ point
- Running re-test with a BAC of .04 to less than .15 = 1 point
- Running re-test with a BAC of .15 or greater = 2 points

Implementation: There are many nuances to this legislation and the resulting program not covered in detail here. Suffice it to say that establishing this program will be a multi-faceted endeavor for all partnering agencies. Generally, PPP will oversee the establishment of IID Program and monitor it once it is up and running (even though all drivers sentenced to the IID Program will not necessarily be on probation or parole). The Department of Motor Vehicles will issue special licenses to drivers participating in this program. DAODAS will provide treatment services mandated for repeat violators. The Multi-Agency Implementation Team has held two planning meetings thus far. The Prevention of Underage Drinking and Access to Alcohol Act requires implementation on January 1, 2008.

Bright Recognized for Service

In 2007, Gwen Bright, Director of Parole Board Support Services, was honored by the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Program in recognition of over 20 years of service to this organization as a volunteer and advocate for children in South Carolina. An article, published nationally, acknowledged Ms. Bright's numerous contributions to this organization and stated "that she has helped more than 60 children find safe, permanent homes."



Highlighting Greenville County

By Peter O'Boyle, Public Information Director

The slogan of the Greenville County office is: "Making a Difference and Changing Lives." More than 20 Agents and supervisors are active in their communities working with the very agencies that are trying to turn around offenders' lives, such as Compass of the Carolinas, Vocational Rehabilitation, Salvation Army, the Spice Program, Indigent Defense and others.

AIC Bob Ayers pushes his staff to get in-



AIC Bob Ayers at his desk in Greenville County.

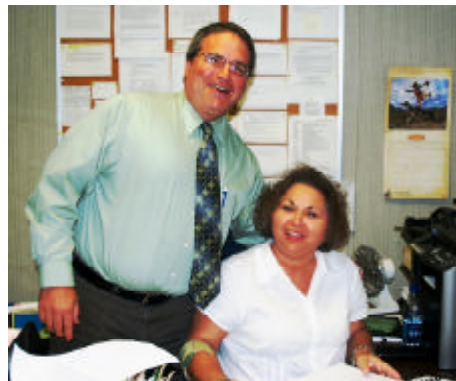
involved in volunteer and community endeavors. "We are fortunate to have agents that have varied concerns in the areas of offender treatment, assistance and overall well being," Ayers tells them, "Remember, the people you are dealing with are human beings, not always lifetime criminals. Maybe they need a shove in the right direction and we can make a difference in somebody's life. "It's important to focus on the community; when offenders are working they're less apt to get in trouble," he said.

Agents and employees that give back to their community through presentations to local organizations and schools include:

- Jim Batson and Tony Anderson - They have presented a safety program to students at Greenville Technical College during their Violence Prevention Day for the last 10 years.
- Mike Miller - Conducts a CDV presentation to local churches in the Greenville Area.
- Ashley Smith - Makes presentations to local high school classes on PPP.

- AIC Ayers - Speaks to local civic organizations on the role of Probation & Parole in the criminal justice system.
- Karen Patterson - Conducts an annual food drive for families in need through local elementary schools. This year's drive is a competition between teams with the winner having lunch on the AIC at Red Lobster.
- Jeremy Windle's Team - Agents use their lunch hour to deliver Meals on Wheels to the elderly, three weeks of each month.
- Katara Nathan - Coordinates United Way contributions. She is currently planning this year's events. In the past they have held bake sales and raffles. Katara also heads up the March of Dimes Walk-A-Thon, annually.

An important part of the office's operations is working with the Chamber of Commerce and Greenville Technical College. Those organizations are keys to finding job opportunities for offenders. A partnership program with the Chamber and Tech, evaluates each participating offender with testing and job or education placement. The other fea-



Assistant AIC Greg Stewart and Office Manager Donna Martin pose for the camera.

ture is to work closely with local businesses to inform them of the capabilities of the more than 5,000 offenders on the Greenville caseload. Also, hiring offenders carries tax breaks. Greenville businesses have been willing and even eager to hire offenders, despite the stigma it may carry in the larger community, Ayers notes. "They know that getting the population working is the key to keeping them out of jail and off supervision for the long term."

The Greenville office is particularly proud of its partnerships with Vocational Rehabilitation, Alston Wilkes and the Phoenix Center for Drug and Alcohol Abuse. "We have two counselors from Vocational Rehabilitation in our office twice each week and provide them office space to see our offenders. Sammy Stroud from Alston Wilkes is housed in our office and sees offenders on a daily basis" he notes. The office also participates in: annual job fairs at local colleges; the Employment Task Force with the Greenville Chamber of Commerce; joint warrant sweeps with the Greenville Sheriff's Office, Police Department, ATF, SLED, and US Marshall's Service. The Greenville office also sits on the Mental Health Task force along with the Probate Court which has been instrumental in the Greenville County Mental Health Court.

"We are also very fortunate to have Dave Johnson as our in-house drug and alcohol treatment counselor," notes Ayers. Dave has been recognized as a pioneer in his field having received the Blue Granite award from Sen. Phil Leventis in 2003 for his work with Greenville Technical College in obtaining GED programs for offenders. The Greenville office also is fortunate to have Teresa Rakestraw from the IT section, Harold Aiken from the Hearing Section and two Parole Examiners, Warren Kimmons and Donna Davis, in-house. They also have a very active Volunteer/Intern program run by Shelley Baughcome and Chris Bardon.

The office is also fortunate to have the ability to take reports and see offenders outside the agents' work area, in a reporting area. This provides far better security for the staff and reduces offender access. The office staff is very friendly and work closely together. They have frequent lunch "get-togethers", either as pot-luck in the office or at a local restaurant.

"We eat out a lot and socialize and fellowship together in order to maintain a high level of morale among the staff," points out Assistant AIC Greg Stewart. "Overall I am very proud to be associated with a group of people that take their responsibilities to each other, our offenders and our community so seriously and are committed to our goal to make a difference and change lives," adds Ayers. Maybe it's no accident the Greenville office was the 2006 Large Office of the Year.

PPP Agent Badging Ceremonies



SCDPPPS welcomed four new Agents on July 13th, as these graduates of the Criminal Justice Academy received their badges in ceremonies immediately after the graduation (from left): Franklin Fluker, Anderson County; Jonathan Harper, Aiken; (Deputy Director for Field Operations Jeff Cogdill) Anthony Moffatt, York; and Bryan Simon, Orangeburg.



Stacy Weil graduated from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy and received her badge as a new Agent in the Richland County office on August 3rd. Ms. Weil was honored as one of the distinguished graduates of her class. Pictured are Deputy Director for Field Operations Jeff Cogdill, Ms. Weil and Regional Director Chris Stepp.



New Agents completed the Criminal Justice Academy and received their badges on August 24th. From left are: Yxsumi Simmons, Dorchester County; Heather Higgins, Spartanburg; (SCDPPPS Director Sam Glover); Constance Taylor, Spartanburg; and Brandon Faris, Pickens.

New Faces in HRM

By Hattie Halsey, Human Resources Management

When you come by the Human Resources Management Office these days, you will be greeted by new faces. Whether you are coming by to make changes to your insurance coverage, ask a payroll question or just to say "hello", staff members will be happy to assist you. So who's who is HRM?

Recruitment, Employee Relations and Leave

Questions concerning position announcements, Agent database, hire packet forms, ID cards, Nelson-Denny testing, ER issues or leave accrual/leave slips:

- ❖ Carol Woodard – Supervisor
- ❖ Tiffany Presley – Administrative Asst
- ❖ Jyoti Nair – Leave Administration

Employee Benefits

Questions concerning insurance coverage, retirement plans, beneficiary changes, disability, psychological testing, Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), Leave Transfer Pool, or Job Retention Services:

- ❖ Monica Hall – Supervisor
- ❖ Paul Angus – Benefits Coordinator
- ❖ Julie Blanton – Benefits Coordinator

Class & Comp/Position Management/Payroll

Pay actions, pre-employment/random drug testing, hire packets completion, EPMS, EEO/AA, position descriptions (PDs), voluntary payroll deductions, direct deposit, or payroll check distribution:

- ❖ Hattie Halsey – Supervisor
- ❖ Stacia Clark – Payroll Officer
- ❖ Valerie Watts – Class & Comp Coordinator

Please contact the staff noted above or call Patrice Boyd, Asst. Deputy Director for HR and Records Administration. You may reach any of us on the 5th floor of Central Office or by calling 803-734-9192.

J. P. Strom Award Winners

This award is given to the SC Criminal Justice Academy graduate who obtains the highest overall academic average, with a minimum of 96% academic average, including the successful completion of all performance tests.

Brandon L. Faris, a new Agent assigned to Pickens County, received the J.P. Strom Award in the Criminal Justice Academy Class of August 24th.



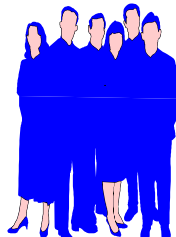
Aiken County Agent Jonathan Harper received the J.P. Strom Award in ceremonies for the graduating class of the Criminal Justice Academy on July 13th.



Aaron Adams	York
Jose Alvarez	Charleston
Eric Ashburn	York
Nathaniel Bess Jr.	ITSS
Julie Blanton	HRM
LaTonya Blue	Horry
Susan Brace	Berkeley
Beth Bradley	Cherokee
Kenneth Clarke	Greenville
Sandy Coney	Greenwood
Michael Cooper	Charleston
Marcus Denard	Richland
William Fordham	Richland
Jeremy Goodman	Greenwood

Please Welcome

OUR NEW EMPLOYEES



JUNE - AUGUST 2007

Ashley Graham	Richland
Michael Haworth	Richland
Michael Jordan	York
Brandi Patterson	Anderson
Tiffany Presley	HRM
Kyle Radford	Aiken
Jan Reynolds	Greenville
Vanessa Simmons	Charleston
Travis Smith	Pickens
Troy Smith	Richland
Amy Sprinkle	Greenville
Johnny Thrower	Orangeburg
Krystal White	Anderson
Kenneth Wright	Calhoun

What is FIOS ?

By Mike Nichols, Chief of Special Operations

I am glad you asked. FIOS is the Fugitive Information Offender Surveillance Section of the Department and is a part of Special Operations. FIOS has been in existence for many years. The primary duties of FIOS are to handle all of the agency HITS along with NCIC (National Crime Information Center) entries for some offices. They also train designated Department staff members in NCIC certifications, perform required NCIC audits, and they also assist in emergency operations.

Each Monday, when we all come racing back to work after a fun filled weekend, the FIOS Section is already two days behind from the HITS over the weekend. It usually takes the staff the better part of Monday just to catch up from the weekend. And then after clearing up the weekend HITS, they begin on the week's work.

Now that we have talked about HITS, you might ask what is a HIT? Well it's not a "Top 40" song. A HIT is when an offender that we have placed in NCIC is located by another agency. These offenders are fugitives that have been located by police in another jurisdiction and, by running the offender's name through NCIC, that jurisdiction learned that they are wanted by our Department. Sometimes the offenders are located in jail and sometimes the police just know where they are and want to know if we want them. FIOS staff must first confirm the identity of the offender to make sure we have the right person. Then they must review the file to verify all of the information necessary to make a positive identification and to determine extradition. Sometimes all of this must be done in less than 10 minutes, so the staff in FIOS must always be on their game.

Other duties performed by FIOS include NCIC validation and the maintenance of all other records in accordance with the FBI and SLED. The staff in FIOS represent our Department in a very professional manner every day in their communications, not only within our agency and in South Carolina but, with other police agencies all over the nation. They do an outstanding job!

Beginning on

September 12, 2007...

Apply on-line 24/7!

S.C. State Government has a new e-recruitment system. This new recruiting system provides a centralized approach for application processing via the internet. It has the capability to review, assess, and select applications on-line.

Components of the system include:

- Online completion of job announcement requests
- Automated/online posting of open positions
- Online applicant/application process
- Automation of the process and information flow between HR and hiring managers
- Online listing of qualified candidates

jobs.sc.gov



Whole Grains: High in Nutrition and Fiber and Low in Fat

Grains come in many shapes and sizes, from large kernels of popcorn to small quinoa seeds. Also called cereals, grains are the widely varied seeds of grasses, which are cultivated for food.

All types of grains are good sources of complex carbohydrates, various vitamins and minerals and are naturally low in fat. But grains that haven't been refined, called whole grains, are even better for you. Whole grains are better sources of fiber and other important nutrients, such as selenium, potassium and magnesium. Grains are the seeds of plants. When whole, they include the bran, germ and endosperm, all of which contain valuable nutrients.

- **Bran.** Forming the outer layer of the seed, the bran is a rich source of niacin, thiamin, riboflavin, magnesium, phosphorus, iron and zinc. The bran also contains most of the seed's fiber.
- **Germ.** The part from which a new plant sprouts, the germ is

a concentrated source of niacin, thiamin, riboflavin, vitamin E, magnesium, phosphorus, iron and zinc. The germ also contains protein and some fat.

• **Endosperm.** Also called the kernel, the endosperm makes up the bulk of the seed. It contains most of the grain's protein and carbohydrates and has small amounts of vitamins and minerals.

Whole Grains vs. Refined Grains

Whole grains haven't had their bran and germ removed by milling, making them better sources of fiber. A high-fiber diet can help lower your risk of heart disease, cancer and diabetes. A high-fiber diet may also lower your risk of other disorders, such as hemorrhoids, irritable bowel syndrome and diverticulitis (the development of small pouches in your colon).

Refined grains, such as white rice or white flour, have both the bran and germ removed from the grain. Although vitamins and minerals are added back into refined grains after the milling process, they still don't have as many nutrients as whole grains do, and they don't provide as much fiber.

Source: Prevention Partners August 2007 Nutrition Article

Change and the OMS

By Beverly Steele, IT Helpdesk Manager

Change is never easy and changing the way we manage offender information has been no exception. Thanks to everyone working together, we've made it through the first few months on the new OMS system.

While some computer software can be bought off the shelf ready to be used, OMS is unique and constantly changing based on legislative and agency needs. With the implementation of our new OMS, not only have we gained an updated product, but our development processes have been greatly improved. We now have a solid foundation for future growth.

It's been a wild ride so far and we're not there yet. There are still some issues to resolve and new features we would like to add, but that is to be expected with such a large new software rollout. We've already had one major revision (or "bug fix") and are expecting another shortly. What kind of changes are we talking about? Well, some you have already seen, like the printer friendly icon that's all over OMS, or the PDF export button. We've got maps and driving directions for offenders as well as victims, Date Range Calendars throughout the system, and the ability to send more than just a photo across the E-mail. New items are in the works, such as a more friendly Violations Wizard.

While change isn't easy, we all know that we need it in order to grow. So keep watching and keep giving us your ideas about ways to enhance our systems! Together we in ITSS will keep ensuring that *change is progress*!

Acknowledging Achievements...

Next time you are at the Central Office, take a minute to visit the foyer adjacent to the Training Room on the 5th floor. This area has been designated as the "Profiles of Achievement" section to showcase photographs of statewide award winners. In addition, an area has been established to feature photographs of the Department's JP Strom Award recipients.

Hard work and excellence deserve recognition. We are proud of our honorees!



SCDPPPS Rolls Up Its Sleeve

Director Sam Glover and Program Coordinator Paige Mathias rolled up their sleeves recently to help the Red Cross blood drive. PPP employees from Richland and Lexington counties joined staff in the Central Office and supplied 25 pints of blood, exceeding the goal set by the Red Cross of 20 pints. The Central Office has agreed to host three blood drives annually.

SPARTANBURG REMOTE PAROLE HEARING VIDEO CONFERENCING SITE OPENS

By Peter O'Boyle, Public Information Director

The South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services opened its Spartanburg remote videoconferencing site with an August 30th news conference. The site is housed at the South Carolina Army National Guard & University Readiness Center on the USC-Upstate campus.

The facility will allow victims from the upstate to avoid the costs and logistics of traveling to Columbia each time they want to testify before the SC Board of Pardons and Paroles. The news conference included a demonstration of the facility and technology, with remarks from Board of Pardons and Paroles Chairman Dwayne M. Green (from Columbia), Director Glover and Hope Blackley, Director of the Office of the Crime Victims' Ombudsman.

The video conference site was made possible by a federal grant under the Victims of Crime Act, administered by the SC Department of Public Safety. The SC General Assembly passed Act 263 of 2004, which was signed by Gov. Mark Sanford, allowing victims to appear before the SC Board of Pardons and Paroles via a two-way closed circuit television system.

Victims in ten counties in the upper part of the state will be able to take advantage of the Spartanburg video conference site. The facility will be staffed by Spartanburg Victim Services Coordinator Bert Sparks.



Anderson County Crime Stoppers

Submitted by Anderson County

The Anderson County office recently received a tip that an offender had several weapons in her home and a group of Agents went to investigate it. The Agents found several guns and a safe. The safe contained \$290.00 in cash and a coin collection. Judge Maddox revoked the offender and ordered the money turned over to Crime Stoppers of Anderson, along with the old coins.



Pictured are AIC Gerald Black and the Anderson County Crime Stoppers Director, Bill Claudwell.

Upcoming Events

By Jodi Gallman, Director of Community Affairs



October is **Criminal Domestic Violence Awareness Month**. The Department emphasizes that domestic violence is a serious crime and that rights of victims must be protected.

SCDPPPS will once again have a booth at the **South Carolina State Fair**. At this venue, we will share information about our new programmatic initiatives, duties, and responsibilities while highlighting our mission. The State Fair will be in Columbia October 10th - 21st.

This month is also shared with **Make A Difference Day** on October 28th. This statewide project encourages individuals to volunteer service while working to make a positive difference in our communities. You pick the project.



The **United Way Campaign** began on September 14th with the Day of Caring and it will end on November 30th. Your contributions are needed. "Together we can make a Difference."

OPEN ENROLLMENT IN OCTOBER

During Open Enrollment, you will have a chance to make major changes in your insurance coverage.

This is the only time you can make the following changes without a special eligibility situation:

- ☐ Add or drop Health, Dental, and/or Dental Plus coverage
- ☐ Add or drop dependents from your Health and/or Dental Plan

Details about Open Enrollment options are found in *The Insurance Advantage Newsletter* which will be distributed to all employees by October 1st.

OMS Tips

By Beverly Steele, IT Helpdesk Manager

Always read the Welcome screen once you have logged into OMS. The latest information concerning the status of the system will be displayed on this screen.

Cashiers - If you travel to a different county to work, be sure to change your county location. Once you have logged in – go to General Functions, Maintain User/County, and change to the county you are working in. However, you MUST CHANGE BACK to your original county when you go back. (Example: Cashier goes from Lexington to Richland for the day. She changes her county to Richland for that day. All of the money taken goes into Richland's deposit. When she goes back to Lexington, she must change the county location BACK to Lexington, or all the money she takes will go into Richland's deposit.)

Create a bookmark or favorite for OMS on your Web Browser. Then you can get in any time, without having to go out to the Icon. The address for the OMS system is: <http://oms.ppp.state.sc.us>

To bookmark this page in Firefox or Mozilla:

1. Enter the Address into the Address field. Hit enter or the green arrow.
2. Once the Login screen has come up, go to Bookmarks in the Menu Bar and select Bookmark this page.

To Add to Favorites in Internet Explorer:

1. Enter the Address into the Address field. Click on the Go button.
2. Click on Favorites in the Menu Bar. Select Add to Favorites, and click on OK.

If you have any questions or problems, please contact the Help Desk (803-734-4357) for assistance.

THE INFORMER

South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole & Pardon Services

THE INFORMER is a quarterly publication of the South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services (SCDPPPS). Articles may be reprinted without permission; however, proper credit is requested for any material used. *THE INFORMER* solicits photographs and story ideas from SCDPPPS staff. These, along with any inquiries or comments, should be directed by e-mail to Rhonda Grant at rgrant@ppp.state.sc.us, or by postal mail to the Office of Executive Programs, SCDPPPS, 2221 Devine Street, P.O. Box 50666, Columbia, South Carolina, 29250.

The Honorable Mark Sanford
Governor

Samuel B. Glover
Director

Rhonda Grant
Director, Executive Programs
Newsletter Editor

Arnise N. Moultrie
Newsletter Designer



Florence Agents Louis Ashley, Robert A. Owens, Jr., Darren Youmans and Richard Fletcher helped Special Olympics by running in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run that lead to Fort Jackson. SCDPPPS employees also purchased more than \$150 worth of t-shirts and hats for the Special Olympics from Public Information Director Pete O'Boyle.

AGENCY MISSION

To **prepare** offenders under our supervision toward becoming productive members of the community;
to **provide** assistance to the victims of crimes, the courts and the Parole Board; and
to **protect** public trust and safety.

AGENCY MOTTO

PREPARE, PROVIDE AND PROTECT